

WTWG Minutes for Monday, January 23, 2006 at 10:30 AM

Bob Barwin	Stuart Crane
Phil Crane	Jim Davis
Paul Dempsey	Patrick Deneen
Jim Esget	Stephen Fanciullo
Bill Ferry	Chuck Garner
Ken Hasbrouck	Carron Helberg
Stan Isley	Chris Lynch
Larry Martin	Joe Mentor
Jim Milton	Jamie Morin on phone
Roberta Ries	Tom Ring
Al Scherzinger	Tom Tebb
Ron Van Gundy	

Tom Leonard called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM. The first agenda item started with the approval of the previous meeting minutes. TL asked if there were any comments from the group. Since there was no response, the minutes were approved.

The group continued with the previous proposal for Brunson/Bull Canal Co, 2005-68 (WY06), with Tom Ring needing to talk to the YN. TR said he responded via email with a thumbs up and to include YN in the management team which formulates a plan every year and identify which tributary. The group recommended this proposal.

The group continued with the first two new proposals for Sorenson (2006-01) and Elsinger (2006-02) together, with Jamie Morin explaining this is only a change in point of diversion. Phil Crane asked if the fisheries had seen these. JM was not sure, but the conservancy board has approved them. Stuart Crane felt he could not decide until hearing from the fisheries. PC suggested that we get Perry Harvester to chime in on this one. SC stated the concern is the move upstream, with JM adding the move is to put it in a better location. The group discussed the location of the new diversion. TL asked for the groups concerns, with the group recommending this proposal with an email from PH. Stan Isley commented it is a net positive effect on fish.

The group continued with the next new proposal for Wapatox 2006-03 with SI explaining there is no one-pager, but there is a Pendente Lite Order ready for court for February 9th, 2006. SI & Jim Esget continued by explaining the transfer. The group asked questions about the diversions in this stretch, commented on the impairments, and measurement of the diversion. Stephen Fanciullo commented on the management of the water right, that if 51 cfs/day is diverted; the total water right will be exceeded prior to the end of the season. The water needs to be managed. The group continued with; contractual issues, an "in the box" discussion, the subject of carriage water, and how the power canal was acquired. The group agreed to make no recommendation at this time.

The group continued with Scatter Creek Resources 2006-04 with Larry Martin explaining this transfer by saying the well is in and the ability to pull water is already functioning. It is a year-round use, more in the irrigation season and less in the non-irrigation season. Paul Dempsey is working with Ecology, Chuck Garner (Reclamation) and Jim Milton.

He will work up more information on the CU calculation. Tom Ring noted that he has not seen any of the details until now and not comfortable without the details. Winter flows are fixed and he would need the analysis before making a decision. The group continued to discuss the details and to discuss winter flows impact on storage water. It was determined that more info is needed.

The group continued with the last new proposal for Cascade Irrigation District, 2006-05, with Larry Martin explaining the proposal. TR noted the CU Calculation was incorrect concerning the stock water. TR asked about how do we monitor, are these diversions screened. BB said no, there are issues that need to be worked through. TR said he could not give a thumbs up when state law requires screening and monitoring. Adam Gravley had additional comments sent by email, which acknowledged the need for additional information before proceeding. The group does not give a recommendation at this time.

The group then progressed to the next agenda item with a discussion of the contracting issue. Roberta Ries said she is working with the Regional Office on the draft MOU in order to move forward. BB stated that Ecology is working with legislators to ask for funding and authority for the remaining Post-1905 users and the Pott water right and will know by the end of March about legislation. Joe Mentor asked if it would be limited to just the Post-1905 users, which includes City of Roslyn. Can we negotiate a contract broad enough to include the other dozen or so proposals? BB said the MOU is for both, but the funding will be only on the Post-1905 domestic water use. JM asked who made the decision. RR stressed that the priorities are in three levels: First, the Post-1905 users, including City of Roslyn and 100+; Second, the ag to ag transfers which include Chateau St. Michelle and Suncadia; and Third, are the illegal users which is a mix of irrigation and domestic uses. JM asked at what level Reclamation has made this decision. Jerry Kelso confirmed that this is an Area Office level decision in order to make this manageable, and added, if this needs to be discussed, let us do it. RR commented that the contract process is difficult in today's climate. JM felt that we need all these together due to limited resources.

The group agreed the next meeting date will be Monday, February 13, 2006 at 10:30 AM.

The group adjourned at 12:00 PM.